

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 023561

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NZ

SUBJECT: FEDERATION OF LABOUR (FOL) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

REF: WELLINGTON 0258

1. WE HAVE INFORMED AFL-CIO AS SUGGESTED REFTEL. AFL-CIO IS APPRECIATIVE OF FOL'S TRADITIONS BUT HAS DIFFICULTY WITH FEAR OF EMBARRASSMENT REASON FOR NOT EXTENDING OFFICIAL INVITATION. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR LEE MADE THE POINT THAT AFL-CIO HAD NOT ASKED FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR PREVIOUS CONFERENCES AND WAS NOT ABOUT TO START DOING IT NOW. ALSO, THE RUSSIANS WOULD PROBABLY BE PRESENT, PERHAPS BY INVITATION, AND THE AFL-CIO WOULD NOT RPT NOT, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, EVEN CONTEMPLATE ATTENDING UNLESS OFFICIAL INVITATION IS EXTENDED.

2. LABATT SHOULD REASSURE KNOX THAT AFL-CIO DOES NOT EXPECT FOL TO DEFRAY EXPENSES FOR ITS FRATERNAL DELEGATE. ALSO, IF LABATT DEEMS IT ADVISABLE, FOL SHOULD BE ASKED TO SEND WRITTEN INVITATION TO AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MEANY FOR HIS CONSIDERATION. KISSINGER
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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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